



Achtung FELLschung

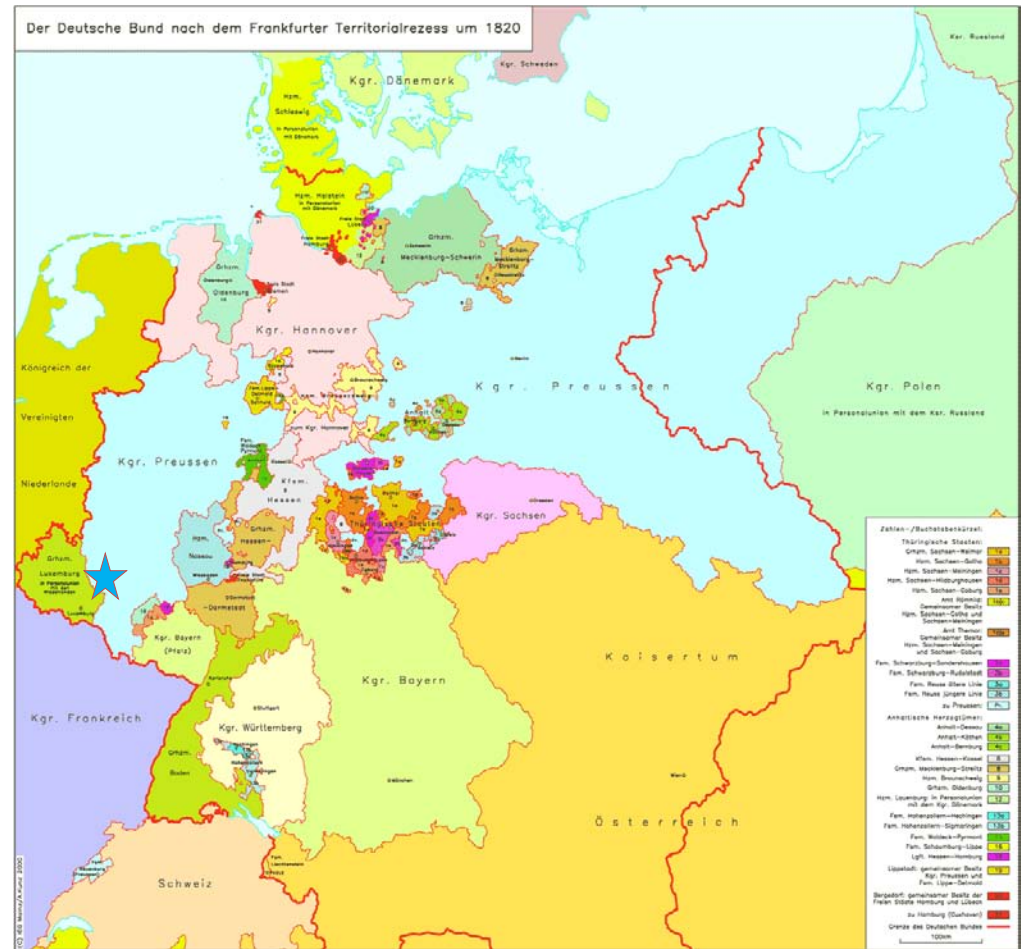
Produktion: FELLschung, 2019, 100%, 100% in Deutschland

Karl Marx - Overview

Fall 2010

Marx -- Biographical I

- Born Trier 1818



Marx – Biographical II

- University educated - philosophy/law/history
- Strongly influenced by circle of intellectuals around university – “Young Hegelians”
- Worked as journalist/newspaper-magazine editor/writer
- Left Europe for England in late 1840s due to political pressure
- Supported by friend/collaborator Friedrich Engels for much of his adult life

Marx – Biographical III

- Died, London, 1883.



Obituary New York Times

THE DEATH OF KARL MARX.

New York Times (1857-1922); Mar 17, 1883;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2006)

PE 3

THE DEATH OF KARL MARX.

CAREER AND WRITINGS OF THE FOUNDER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, March 16.—Dr. Friederich Engel, an intimate friend of Karl Marx, says Herr Marx died in London, near Regent's Park. Dr. Engel was present at the time of his death, which was caused by bronchitis, abscess of the lungs, and internal bleeding. He died without pain. In respect to the wishes of Herr Marx, who always avoided a demonstration, his family have decided that the funeral shall be private. About 18 persons will be present, including a few friends who are coming from the Continent. The place of interment has not been announced. Dr. Engel will probably speak at the grave. There will be no religious ceremony. At the time of his death the third edition of Herr Marx's book, "Das Kapital," first published in 1864, was in preparation for the press.

PARIS, March 16.—*La Justice*, of which M. Longuet, son-in-law of Karl Marx, is one of the staff, says Herr Marx spent part of last Summer at Argenteuil, but returned to London in October.

Karl Marx, the German Socialist and founder of the International Association, was born in Cologne in 1818, and after studying philosophy and the law at the Universities of Bonn and Berlin became the editor of the *Rhenish Gazette*, in 1842. The opinions which he published were of so radical a character that the paper was suppressed the following year. He then went to France, where he devoted himself to the study of political economy and social questions, and published in the *Franco-German Year Book*, in 1844, "A Critical Review of Hegel's Phi-

Book, in 1844, "A Critical Review of Hegel's Philosophy" and "The Holy Family against Bruno and His Consorts," a satire on German idealism. Expelled from France on the demand of the Prussian Government, he went to Belgium. He afterward took part in the Working Men's Congress in London in 1847, and was one of the authors of the manifesto of the Communists. He was in Paris during the revolution of February, 1848, and then returned to Cologne, where he founded a paper called the *New Rhenish Gazette*. After the dissolution of the Prussian Chambers, Marx advised the people to organize and resist the collection of the imposts, and for this his journal was a second time suppressed. He continued the agitation against the tax, and was arrested several times, but always acquitted by the jury on trial. He was finally banished from Germany, and returned to Paris, where he took part in the stormy scenes of the June disturbances, for which he was imprisoned, but managed to escape to London, where he established himself permanently. There, in 1864, he founded the Association of Working Men, since known as the "International." Herr Marx was the leading spirit of the first Central Council of that organization, which framed the laws which were adopted at the Geneva congress in 1866. He became the Corresponding Secretary for Germany and Russia, and from that time was the real Director of the International. In 1871 he was attacked by the English section of the association and pronounced an unfit man to be a leader of the working classes. The schism was broadened in 1872, at the congress held at The Hague, when the Central Council at London was repudiated and Marx was deposed from his office as Secretary. The Internationals then divided into two factions—the Centralists, with Marx at their head, who transferred the headquarters of the Central Council to this City, and the Federalists, who had thrown Marx overboard. Marx continued to reside in London, where he was for many years a correspondent of a New-York paper. Among the works published by him are "A Treatise on Free Exchange," "The Misery of Philosophy," which is an answer to Proudhon's "Philosophy of Misery," and "Capital: a Criticism of Political Economy," which is a complete exposition of the author's doctrines.

Marxism and Capitalism

- Q. What is the difference, comrade, between Communism and capitalism?
- A. Under capitalism, man exploits man. Under Communism, the situation is reversed.

Two Marx's

- Debate about the distinction
- Early/Young Marx (pre 1848)
 - Humanistic
 - “Alienation”
 - Main Works
 - *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*
 - Theses on Feuerbach (1845)
 - [A Critique of] *German Ideology* (1845-6)
- Later Marx
 - Political
 - “Revolution”
 - Main Works
 - *Communist Manifesto* (1848)
 - *Das Kapital* (1867-)

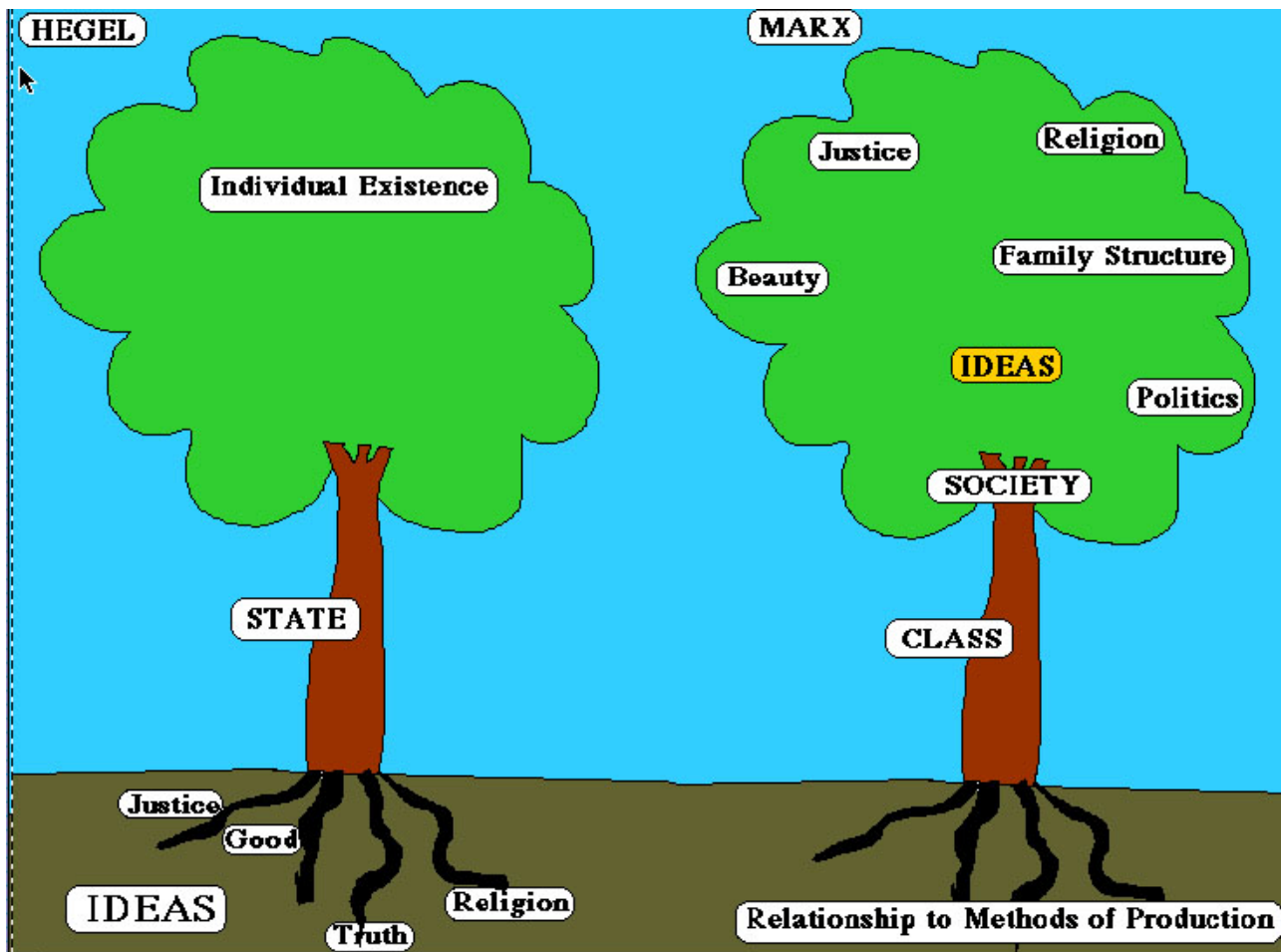
Alienation

- Definition : separation within a person of things that ought to be connected, especially a loss of control over aspects of one's life.
- Capitalist working conditions alienate labor
- Cash wages dehumanize product of labor
- German word is *Entfremdung*, "estrangement."
- Source: "Estranged Labour" from the *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*.
- In other words...
 - Least human when doing what is only human, most human when doing what we have in common with animals
 - Separating worker from creation
 - Worker as mere appendage of machine
 - Porn Example
 - Flight attendants and cashiers
 - Grades
 - Yard sales

Materialism

- Definition : only matter/stuff exists, mind/ideas/consciousness are not “real”
- In Marx, it’s opposed to the idealism of Hegel, the dominant philosopher at the time. Idealism holds that the ultimate reality depends on the mind.
- Hegel – *Zeitgeist*, the spirit of a time. History flows from changes in the dominant ideas of an age.
- Marx is said to have “stood Hegel on his head”

Idealism-Materialism



Ideology

- Material conditions – social location – determines thought
- Ideas serve material interest

Dominant Ideology Thesis

The ideas of the ruling class are in every epoch the ruling ideas, i.e. the class which is the ruling material force of society, is at the same time its ruling intellectual force.

The German Ideology (1845).

Dialectic

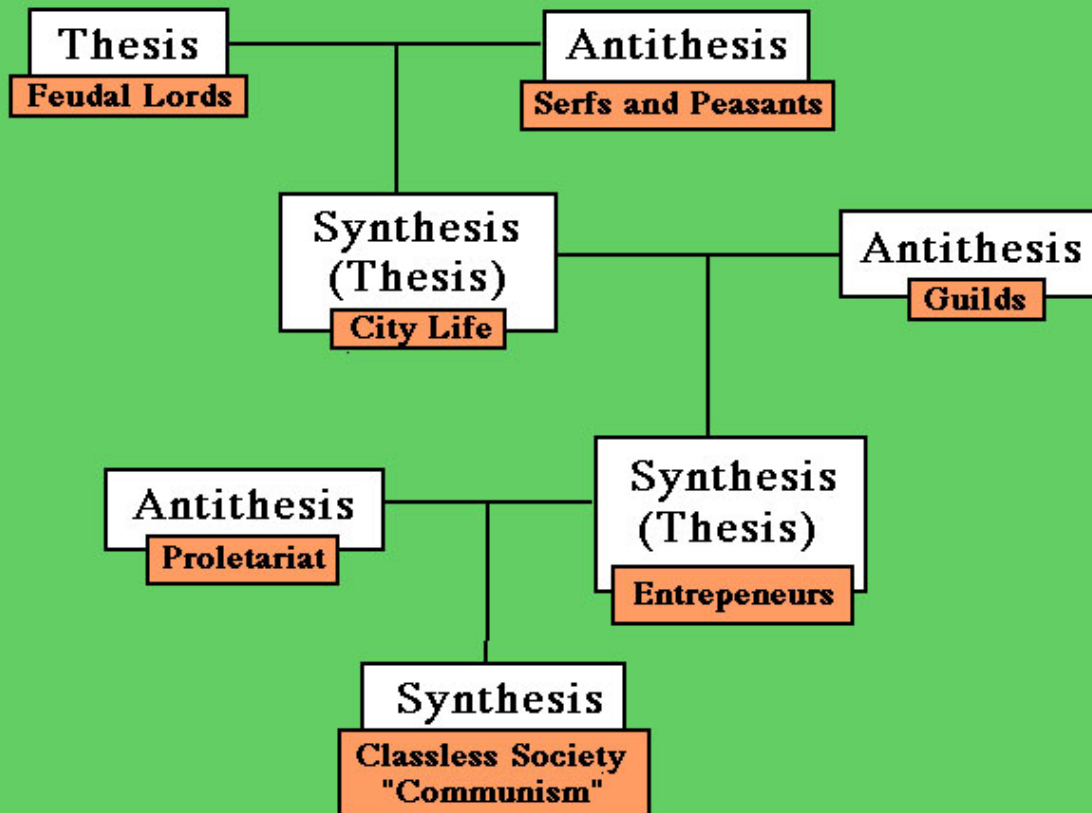
- General Idea
 1. Nothing is fixed and permanent
 2. Everything consists of opposing forces/sides or contradictions
 3. Balances shift and sometimes one overcomes other (crossing threshold or tipping point, quantitative change leads to qualitative change).
 4. Result is new reality with new internal contradictions (spirals not circles)

Dialectic

- Thesis – Antithesis - Synthesis
- Hegelian dialectic is about the evolution of ideas.
- Marxian dialectic is about the evolution of social organization

Dialectic

The Dialectic in Action



Historical Materialism

“The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles.”

Communist Manifesto

- Two classes
 - proletariat (workers)
 - bourgeoisie (capitalists)

But what is “class”?

- For Marx, it is economic position vis a vis the MEANS OF PRODUCTION

Class Consciousness

- Eventually members of a social class recognize their common interest. They shift from being a *class in-itself* to being a *class for-itself*.
- *False consciousness* – seeing the world through a lens that is convenient to other classes – can stand in the way of (critical) class consciousness.



Sorry 'bout that
kids, it was just a
crazy idea I had...



Another joke...

- Student asks his principal, "Where is my teacher?".

"Citywide layoffs", replies the principal.

"My text books?" asks the student.

"State austerity plan", says the principal.

"Student loan?" continues the student.

"Federal budget cuts", says the principal.

Finally, exasperated, student asks, "But how am I going to get an education?".

To which the equally exasperated principal replies, "This is your education".

Obituary New York Times Sep 6, 1871

Karl Marx.

Our cable dispatches announce the death of Dr. KARL MARX, the ostensible leader of the famous International Society in Europe. The celebrity of Dr. MARX is only of recent date, though his life was full of adventure, like all other political conspirators, causing him to finally seek a refuge in England.

Dr. MARX was born in Germany in 1818, and began his manhood as a law student in Berlin and at Bonn. From the year 1842 he edited the *Rheinische Zeitung*, in Cologne, until the journal was suppressed by the Government of Prussia, when MARX fled to Paris. At the demand of Prussia, he was arrested in France and sent across the frontier. He next found refuge from political persecution in Belgium, and when the revolution of 1848 occurred he hastened back to Cologne and revived his paper. He only remained in possession of the journal for three years, when he was a second time expelled. He then proceeded to London, and remained in that city the greater part of his after life. He supported himself by literary work of a general character, and labored

hard in his profession. In 1862 the idea of the International Society was conceived, and to Dr. MARX the organization owed much of its subsequent progress. The Society was originally intended to work for the benefit of working men in general, partially on the trade-union system. It, however, became a purely political organization, which has since grown into formidable dimensions throughout Europe. It is believed by many that the Commune in France was really inspired by the International Society, though the charge has been strenuously denied. Dr. MARX'S prominence as a Corresponding Secretary of the Society rendered him a man of mark in contemporary history, and it is supposed that he was the author of the address of the Internationals, which was published in a recent issue of the TIMES. Essentially a visionary, Dr. MARX never achieved any decided reputation as an agitator, and he frequently rendered himself obnoxious to those who happened to differ with him in his opinions. So far did he carry this trait of his character that it was only a short time since he threatened to shoot the editor of the *Pail Mail Gazette* for a criticism deemed by him offensive.